(c) what are the after effects o signing the GATT agreement a nd of world Trade Organisations coming into picture ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) The Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture does not use the concepts of positive and negative subsidies. The concept that has been used to measure support in favour of agricultural producers is the Aggregate Measurement of Support (AMS). AMS comprises two elements, namely, product specific AMS and non-product specific AMS. For the purpose of calculating the domestic support to agricultural producers, both product specifix AMS and non-product specific AMS shall be taken into account.

AMS is a negotiated concept designed to measure the trade distorting domestic support given to agriculture by member countries of GATT. It does not take into account a large variety of support measures for the agricultural sector. For this reason, it is not appropriate to equate the concepts of AMS and subsidies.

Some 20 developing and developed countries including the US, European Communities, Canada, Colombia, Mexico, Thailand, Korea, Brazil, Sweden, Norway, Australia, New Zealand, and Switzerland have undertaken AMS reduction commitments in their schedules filed in GATT. About 50 countries have not undertaken any reduction commitments and these included India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Chile, Egypt, Cuba, Peru and Kenya.

The Uruguay Round Agreement has not yet come into force. It is expected that the Agreement will come into force with effect from 1st January 1995.

Plants for tobacco products in Andhra Pradesh

743. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Foreign businessmen in the Tobacco Sector are setting up plants in Andhra Pradesh to make tobacco products suitable for 100 per cent export;

(b) if so, whether the availability of raw material in Andhra Pradesh has been studied by Government ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the involvement of the Central Tobacco Research Institute in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

India International Trade Fair—94

744. SHRI K. M. KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 14th India International Trade Fair opened on the 14th November, 1994 ;

(b) if so, the special features of this fair with names of Indian as well as foreign organisations which took part ;

(c) whether some norms for participation in the fair have been fixed for Indian as well as foreign organisations ;

(d) if so, details thereof with charges fixed for such participation;

(e) whether some earning has been made by organising this fair ;

(f) if so, the details thereof indicating earnings from visitors, from Indian organisations and from foreign organisations ;

(g) whether organisation of this fair has helped the Industrial activity and export performance of the country ; and

(h) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The theme of the 14th India International Fair (IITF) held during 24th to 27th November, 1994 related to sustainable development. Among the highlights of display were Techmart—Small and Medium Industry Technology; Build-Tech—Building Technology; Knit India—Knitwear; Watches & Clocks and Toys. Almost all States and Union Territories and some Central Government Ministries and Departments and leading Public Sector Undertakings were among the participants. A major feature of the Fair related to 'Good Living' which displayed a wide range of consumer products and the participants included leading firms dealing with products such as consumer electronic, electrical and home appliances, textile furniture and furnishings, jewellery, cosmetics and so on. In the international sector as many as 130 organisations took part from 19 countries namely Afghanistan, Argentina, China, Japan, Russia, South Africa, U.K., Canada, Singapore, Germany and Italy, etc.

(c) and (d) The norms for participation include the stature of the exhibitor, capacity of manufacturing quality products and marketing experience. The charges for bare space is Rs. 1250/- per sq. mtrs. and US $ 125 for Indian and foreign exhibitors respectively.

(e) and (f) The gross earnings in the form of space rent received from Indian organisations and foreign organisations participating in this fair was Rs. 6.34 crores and the gate money earned at the fair was approx. 81.71 lakhs.

(g) and (h) Yes, Sir. Quite a number of exhibitors/participants have reported substantial business by way of export orders, import deals, joint ventures proposals, domestic sales and sales across the counter.

Drawback on Import of Machinery

745. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the British Trade Minister, Richard Needham leading a British Trade Delegation to India recently, had said that inspite of the reforms, there were some barriers like high tariff regarding import of machinery or spare parts which made them expensive, besides red tape which leads to avoidable delays;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what remedial action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) As per press reports, the British Trade Minister referred to the continuing concern on the part of British industry about the relatively high tariffs in India and procedural delays.

(c) Government has already embarked upon the process of economic reforms which inter-alia include the reduction of import tariffs and simplification of relevant rules/procedures.